GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2324
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Healthcare Facilities under ESIC
Khadse Smt. Raksha Nikhil;Patil Shri A.T. (Nana)

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government proposes to universalise healthcare facilities and medical insurance scheme under the ESIC to include all States and districts of the country and to workers such as construction workers and self-employed workers and also some selected groups in urban areas including Maharashtra;
(b)if so, the details thereof and the details of workers included under the self employed workers;
(c)whether the Government has framed the modalities and time limit for implementing the said scheme and whether there is also a proposal to reduce the threshold limit from the present 10 to 5 workers;
(d)if so, the details thereof and the various benefits the workers are entitled under the said scheme; and
(e)whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) coverage is limited to industrial and commercial pockets only and if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): Based on recommendation of the 46TH India Labour Conference (ILC), Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has approved the following:
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i) To implement ESIC scheme in remaining states/UTS. (3 States and one Union Territory) by December, 2015.
ii) To cover the entire area of the 393 districts in the country in phased manner, where the scheme is already implemented in some part (s) of the District.
iii) Extended coverage to construction site workers w.e.f. 01/08/2015.
iv) A scheme for providing medical benefits to selected groups of un-organized workers like Rickshaw Pullers, Auto-rickshaw Drivers and other such categories. It should be on the pilot basis for selected metropolitan cities and urban areas.

(c) & (d): The time scheduled is indicated above.
Besides, ESIC has constituted a Sub-Committee recently to examine the following:-
(i) Upto what level the threshold be reduced with reference to Section 1(5) of the ESI Act; and
(ii) Category of the establishment/workers to which this reduced threshold should be applicable.
The Employee, so covered, will be entitled for Medical Benefit, Sickness Benefit, Maternity Benefit, Disablement Benefit, Dependant Benefit, Funeral Expenses & Unemployment Allowance Under Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana.
(e): No, Madam.

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